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The Scrap Book

Well!—An old negro, near Victoria, Texas, who was the only Baptist in the neighbourhood, always "stuck up for his own faith," and was ready with a reason for it, although he was unable to read a word. This was the way he "put 'em down"; "Yo' kin read, now, kaint yo'?"

"Yes."

"Well, I s'pose yo' read de Bible, haint yo'?"

"Yes."

"Yo' read 'bout John de Baptis', haint yo'?"

"Yes."

"Well, yo' never read 'bout John de Mefodis', did yo'?"—Argonaut.

Playwright and Producer.—A good theatrical story was told by Mr. Jerome K. Jerome one night at the O. F. Club dinner to dramatic authors.

"I spoke to an eminent producer not long ago," he said, "about a play a young friend of mine had sent to him. He remembered it."

"Ah, yes," he said. "Not at all bad. There's an idea in it."

"Later on it was produced, and after the show I went behind."

"Well," said the eminent producer, "what did you think of it?"

"Oh, all right!" I said. "It seems all correct. But what about that idea?"

"He didn't seem to understand."

"The idea," I reminded him; "you said there was an idea in it."

"He remembered then. 'Ah, yes,' he said. 'Yes. We had to cut that out.'"

Pall Mall Gazette.

Justice.—The teacher had worked that morning explaining the injustices done by Nero, and believed he had made an impression on the boys. Then he asked questions:

"Now, boys, what do you think of Nero? Do you think he was a good man?"

No one answered. Then the teacher singled out a boy.

"Chancy, what do you think? Do you think he was straight?"

"Well," returned the boy, after a long wait, "he never done nuthin' to me."

Ladies' Home Journal.

Hearing the Truth.—Dentist: "Have you been anywhere else?"

Patient: "I went to see the chemist in our village."

Dentist: "And what idiotic advice did he give you?"

Patient: "He told me to come and see you, sir."—London Opinion.

No Wonder.—Mr. Jones was operated on for appendicitis. He was placed in a small ward to recover from the anaesthetic, his bed being between that of two patients previously operated on. As he awoke from the anaesthetic he said: "Thank Heaven that's over!"

"Oh, no," said the patient on his right, "when I was operated on, the doctor left a sponge and had to go back and get it out."

"Yes, indeed," said the patient on the left, "and when I was operated on the doctor left the scissors and had to go back and get them."

Just then the surgeon put his head in the door and asked:

"Has any one here seen my hat?" and Jones fainted.—Good Health.

Not An Apt Pupil.—Into the police court of Mobile there had been haled for the fourth time a negro boy, charged with chicken-stealing. The magistrate determined to appeal to the boy's father.

"See here," said his honour to the parent, "this boy of yours has been up in court so many times for stealing chickens that I am tired of seeing him here."

"I doesn't blame yo', jedge," said the father, "an' I's tired of seein' him here."

"Then, why don't you teach him how to act? Show him the right way, and he won't be coming here."

"I has showed him de right way, jedge," said the old man, very earnestly. "I has cert'n'y showed him de right way, but somehow dat wuthless nigger keeps gittin' caught comin' away wif de chickens."

What Ails Them.

John Bull's in such a nervous state The smallest noise upsets him;

And Uncle Sam is just as bad, The least disturbance frets him.

Each one is victim of a "plague," Bad as tuberculosis;

Poor John has got Ulsteria, And Sam has Mexicosis.

—Frederick Moxon, in New York Sun.

His Real Heed.—Sportsman (assisting jockey, who has been knocked out)—"Stand back, please, a little more air! And hurry up with that brandy!"

Faint Voice from Patient—"Never mind 'bout the air."—Stray Stories.

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